

BILL NO. 82-68

BOOK 8 PAGE 101

AS AMENDED

COUNTY COUNCIL

OF

HARFORD COUNTY, MARYLAND

BILL NO. 82-68 (as amended)

Introduced by Council President Hardwicke at the
request of the County Executive

Legislative Day No. 82-28 Date August 17, 1982

AN EMERGENCY ACT to add new Article VII, heading, Sign Code, to Chapter 25, heading, Zoning, of the Harford County Code, as amended; to provide for the erection, location, size, repair, maintenance, and removal of signs, billboards, and other advertising structures; to provide for the issuance of permits and fees therefor; to provide for penalties for violation thereof; and generally relating to the regulation of signs in Harford County, Maryland.

By the Council, August 17, 1982

Introduced, read first time, ordered posted and public hearing scheduled

on: September 21, 1982

at: 6:00 P.M.

By Order: Angela Markowski, Secretary

PUBLIC HEARING

Having been posted and notice of time and place of hearing and title of Bill having been published according to the Charter, a public hearing was held on September 21, 1982 and concluded on September 21, 1982.

Angela Markowski, Secretary

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW. [Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law. Underlining indicates language added to Bill by amendment. Language lined through indicates matter stricken out of Bill by amendment.

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1 Section 1. Be It Enacted By The County Council of Harford County,
2 Maryland, that new Article VII, heading, Sign Code, be, and it is
3 hereby added to Chapter 25, heading, Zoning, of the Harford County
4 Code, as amended, all to read as follows:

5 CHAPTER 25. ZONING.

6 ARTICLE VII. SIGN CODE.

7 SECTION 25-67. PURPOSE.

8 THE PURPOSE OF THIS ARTICLE IS TO REGULATE ALL EXTERIOR SIGNS
9 SO AS TO PROTECT PROPERTY VALUES, TO PROTECT THE CHARACTER OF THE
10 VARIOUS NEIGHBORHOODS IN THE COUNTY, TO PRESERVE AND ENHANCE
11 NATURAL SCENIC BEAUTY, TO PROTECT HEALTH, SAFETY AND MORALS, AND
12 TO PROMOTE THE GENERAL WELFARE.

13 SECTION 25-68. APPLICATION.

14 THIS ARTICLE SHALL BE EFFECTIVE WITHIN THE TERRITORIAL
15 LIMITS OF HARFORD COUNTY, MARYLAND, AND SHALL NOT APPLY WITHIN ANY
16 INCORPORATED TOWN OR MUNICIPALITY IN HARFORD COUNTY.

17 SECTION 25-69. TITLE.

18 THIS ARTICLE SHALL BE KNOWN AND CITED AS THE "SIGN CODE."

19 SECTION 25-70. DEFINITIONS.

20 (1) BILLBOARD. ANY OUTDOOR ADVERTISING SIGN WHICH PROMOTES
21 OR ADVERTISES PRODUCTS, SERVICES, ACTIVITIES, OR BUSINESSES NOT
22 RELATED TO THE SITE OR BUILDING OR USE ON WHICH IT IS LOCATED.

23 (2) BOARD. THE HARFORD COUNTY BOARD OF APPEALS.

24 (3) DEPARTMENT. THE DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING AND ZONING.

25 (4) DISTRICT. THE ZONING DISTRICT.

26 (5) ENFORCEMENT OFFICER. THE DIRECTOR OF THE DEPARTMENT OF
27 PLANNING AND ZONING OR HIS DESIGNEE.

28 (6) ERECT. BUILD, CONSTRUCT, ATTACH, HANG, PLACE, SUSPEND,
29 OR AFFIX, AND SHALL ALSO INCLUDE THE PAINTING OF WALL SIGNS, BUT
30 SHALL NOT INCLUDE THE CHANGING OF ADVERTISING COPY OR MESSAGES ON
31 BILLBOARDS AND OTHER ADVERTISING STRUCTURES WHICH ARE DESIGNED FOR
32 REPLACABLE COPY.

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1 (7) FACE OR SURFACE. THE SURFACE OF THE SIGN UPON, AGAINST,
2 OR THROUGH WHICH THE MESSAGE IS DISPLAYED OR ILLUSTRATED ON THE
3 SIGN.

4 (8) MAINTENANCE. THE PAINTING, REPAINTING, CLEANING AND
5 OTHER REPAIR OF A SIGN OR STRUCTURAL TRIM UNLESS A STRUCTURAL OR
6 ELECTRICAL CHANGE IS MADE.

7 (9) OTHER ADVERTISING STRUCTURE. ANY MARQUEE, CANOPY,
8 AWNING OR STREET CLOCK AS FURTHER DEFINED HEREIN.

9 (10) PARAPET. A LOW WALL PROTECTING THE EDGE OF A ROOF.

10 (11) PERSON. ANY PERSON, FIRM, PARTNERSHIP, ASSOCIATION,
11 CORPORATION, COMPANY, OR ORGANIZATION OF ANY KIND.

12 (12) PROJECTION. THE DISTANCE WHICH A SIGN EXTENDS OVER
13 PUBLIC PROPERTY OR BEYOND THE BUILDING LINE.

14 (13) ROOF LINE. THE PART OF THE ROOF OR PARAPET WHICH
15 COVERS THE MAJOR AREA OF THE BUILDING.

16 (14) SETBACK. UNLESS OTHERWISE PROVIDED, THE LINE WHICH IS
17 THE REQUIRED MINIMUM DISTANCE FROM THE ROAD RIGHT-OF-WAY OR ANY
18 LOT LINE THAT ESTABLISHES THE AREA WITHIN WHICH PRINCIPAL BUILDINGS
19 OR STRUCTURES MUST BE ERECTED OR PLACED.

20 ~~(14)~~ (15) SIGN. EVERY SIGN, BILLBOARD, FREESTANDING SIGN,
21 WALL SIGN, ROOF SIGN, ILLUMINATED SIGN, PROJECTING SIGN, TEMPORARY
22 SIGN, MARQUEE, AWNING, CANOPY AND STREET CLOCK, AND SHALL INCLUDE
23 ANY ANNOUNCEMENT, DECLARATION, DEMONSTRATION, DISPLAY ILLUSTRATION
24 OR INSIGNIA USED TO ADVERTISE OR PROMOTE THE INTERESTS OF ANY
25 PERSON WHEN THE SAME IS PLACED OUT OF DOORS IN VIEW OF THE GENERAL
26 PUBLIC.

27 ~~(15)~~ (16) SIGN AREA. THE AREA SURFACES INCLUDING THE OUTER
28 EXTREMITIES OF ALL LETTERS, FIGURES, CHARACTERS, AND DELINEATIONS
29 OR SURFACE AREA MAKING CONTACT WITH THE OUTER EXTREMITIES OF THE
30 FRAMEWORK OR BACKGROUND OF THE SIGN, WHICHEVER IS GREATER. THE
31 SUPPORT FOR THE SIGN BACKGROUND, SUCH AS, BUT NOT LIMITED TO,
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1 COLUMNS, PYLONS, OR BUILDINGS OR PART THEREOF, SHALL NOT BE
2 INCLUDED IN THE SIGN AREA UNLESS USED FOR ADVERTISING PURPOSES.

3 (17) SIGNS, DIRECTIONAL. ANY SIGN ON A SITE FOR THE
4 PURPOSE OF DIRECTING TRAFFIC TO ANOTHER USE, SERVICE OR AREA.

5 ~~(16)~~ (18) SIGN, IDENTIFICATION. ANY SIGN IDENTIFYING OR
6 ADVERTISING A BUSINESS, PERSON, ACTIVITY, PRODUCTS, OR SERVICES
7 LOCATED ON THE PREMISES WHERE THE SIGN IS LOCATED.

8 ~~(17)~~ (19) SIGN, ILLUMINATED. ANY SIGN WHICH HAS CHARACTERS,
9 LETTERS, FIGURES, DESIGNS OR OUTLINE ILLUMINATED BY ELECTRIC
10 LIGHTS OR LUMINOUS TUBES AS A PART OF THE SIGN.

11 ~~(18)~~ (20) STRUCTURE. ANYTHING CONSTRUCTED, THE USE OF
12 WHICH REQUIRES PERMANENT LOCATION ON THE GROUND OR IS ATTACHED TO
13 SOMETHING HAVING A PERMANENT LOCATION ON THE GROUND.

14 ~~(19)~~ (21) STRUCTURAL TRIM. THE MOLDING, BATTENS, CAPPINGS,
15 NAILING STRIPS, LATTICING, AND PLATFORMS WHICH ARE ATTACHED TO THE
16 SIGN STRUCTURE.

17 SECTION 25-71. SIGN TYPES AND RESTRICTIONS.

18 (1) CANOPY SIGNS. A DETACHABLE ROOF-LIKE STRUCTURE SUP-
19 PORTED FROM THE GROUND, DECK, FLOOR, WALL OR BUILDING FOR THE
20 PURPOSE OF PROTECTION FROM THE SUN OR WEATHER. A SIGN MAY BE
21 DISPLAYED ON A CANOPY PROVIDED THAT THE LOWEST POINT OF THE SIGN
22 IS NO CLOSER THAN EIGHT (8) FEET FROM THE GROUND.

23 (2) FREESTANDING SIGNS. FREESTANDING SIGN SHALL INCLUDE ANY
24 SIGN SUPPORTED BY UPRIGHTS OR BRACES PLACED UPON THE GROUND AND
25 NOT ATTACHED TO ANY BUILDING. BUSINESS SIGNS MAY BE FREESTANDING
26 ~~IF-THE-BUILDING-DOES-NOT-EXTEND-TO-THE-FULL-AREA-OF-THE-PROPERTY~~
27 ~~AND-THE-PROPERTY-HAS-A-MINIMUM-OF-FORTY-(40)-FEET-OF-FRONTAGE-~~
28 ~~THE-MAXIMUM-AREA-OF-ANY-FREESTANDING-SIGN-SHALL-NOT-EXCEED-TWO~~
29 ~~HUNDRED-FIFTY-(250)-SQUARE-FEET--THE-SETBACK-MEASURED-TO-THE-EDGE~~
30 ~~OF-THE-SIGN-SHALL-BE-SETBACK-EQUAL-TO-ONE-THIRD-(1/3)-OF-THE~~
31 ~~REQUIRED-BUILDING-SETBACK-SHALL-BE-MAINTAINED--THE-MAXIMUM~~
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HEIGHT-ALLOWED-FOR-ANY-FREESTANDING-SIGN-IS-TWENTY-FIVE-(25)-FEET
ABOVE-THE-MEAN-ELEVATION-OF-TOTAL-ROAD-FRONTAGE. IF THE PROPERTY
HAS A MINIMUM OF FORTY (40) FEET OF ROAD FRONTAGE. THE SIGN AREA
SHALL BE CALCULATED ON THE BASIS OF ONE (1) SQUARE FOOT OF SIGN
FOR EVERY FOOT OF PROPERTY ROAD FRONTAGE. HOWEVER, THE MAXIMUM
AREA OF ANY FREESTANDING SIGN SHALL NOT EXCEED TWO HUNDRED FIFTY
(250) SQUARE FEET. THE SETBACK MEASURED TO THE EDGE OF THE SIGN
SHALL BE EQUAL TO ONE-THIRD (1/3) OF THE REQUIRED BUILDING
SETBACK. UNLESS OTHERWISE PROVIDED HEREIN, THE MAXIMUM HEIGHT
ALLOWED FOR ANY FREESTANDING SIGN IS THIRTY-FIVE (35) FEET ABOVE
THE NEAREST PUBLIC ROAD GRADE.

(3) MARQUEES. MARQUEES SHALL INCLUDE ANY COVERING OF
PERMANENT CONSTRUCTION PROJECTING FROM THE WALL OF A BUILDING
ABOVE AN ENTRANCE. MARQUEES SHALL NOT PROJECT CLOSER MORE THAN
ONE-HALF OF THE REQUIRED BUILDING SETBACK FOR THE DISTRICT.

(4) PROJECTING SIGNS. PROJECTING SIGNS SHALL INCLUDE ANY
SIGN WHICH IS ATTACHED TO A BUILDING AND EXTENDS BEYOND THE LINE
OF THE SAID BUILDING OR BEYOND THE SURFACE OF THAT PORTION OF THE
BUILDING TO WHICH IT IS ATTACHED. PROJECTING SIGNS MAY NOT
PROJECT OVER PUBLIC RIGHTS-OF-WAY AND MAY NOT PROJECT MORE THAN
FOUR (4) FEET FROM THE WALL OF A BUILDING, NOR HAVE LESS THAN TEN
(10) FEET CLEARANCE AS MEASURED VERTICALLY FROM THE GROUND TO THE
BOTTOM OF THE SIGN OR SUPPORTING STRUCTURE. NO PROJECTING SIGN
SHALL BE ERECTED AT A HEIGHT EXCEEDING TWENTY-FIVE (25) FEET AS
MEASURED VERTICALLY FROM THE GROUND TO THE TOP OF THE SIGN OR
SUPPORTING STRUCTURE. NO WINDOW OR PART OF A WINDOW SHALL BE
COVERED BY THE SIGN AREA OR ITS SUPPORTING STRUCTURE.

(5) ROOF SIGNS. ROOF SIGN SHALL MEAN ANY SIGN ERECTED,
CONSTRUCTED AND MAINTAINED UPON OR OVER THE ROOF OF ANY BUILDING
WITH THE PRINCIPAL SUPPORT ON THE ROOF STRUCTURE. NO ROOF MOUNTED
SIGN OR SUPPORTING STRUCTURE SHALL EXTEND MORE THAN EIGHT (8) FEET

1 ABOVE THE PARAPET WALL OR ROOF LINE OF THE BUILDING TO WHICH IT IS
2 ATTACHED.

3 (6) TEMPORARY SIGNS. TEMPORARY SIGNS SHALL INCLUDE ANY
4 PORTABLE SIGN, OR ANY OTHER SIGN, BANNER, PENNANT, VALANCE OR
5 ADVERTISING DISPLAY CONSTRUCTED OF CLOTH, CANVAS, FABRIC, CARD-
6 BOARD, WALL BOARD OR OTHER LIGHT MATERIALS, WITH OR WITHOUT
7 FRAMES, INTENDED TO BE DISPLAYED FOR A SHORT PERIOD OF TIME ONLY.
8 THEY MUST CONFORM TO THE REQUIREMENTS OF SECTION-25-71(2)-AND THE
9 HARFORD COUNTY BUILDING AND ELECTRICAL CODES. TEMPORARY SIGNS MAY
10 BE DISPLAYED FOR PERIODS NOT EXCEEDING THIRTY (30) CONSECUTIVE
11 DAYS AND NOT EXCEEDING SIXTY (60) DAYS IN ANY ONE YEAR. THEY
12 SHALL BE SET BACK NOT LESS THAN TEN (10) FEET FROM THE PROPERTY
13 LINE AND SHALL HAVE A MAXIMUM SIGN AREA OF THIRTY-TWO (32) SQUARE
14 FEET AND SHALL NOT EXCEED A HEIGHT OF SIX (6) FEET.

15 (7) WALL SIGNS. WALL SIGNS SHALL INCLUDE ALL FLAT SIGNS OF
16 SOLID-FACE-CONSTRUCTION WHICH ARE PLACED AGAINST A BUILDING OR
17 OTHER STRUCTURE AND ATTACHED TO THE EXTERIOR FRONT, REAR, OR SIDE
18 WALL OF ANY BUILDING, OR OTHER STRUCTURE. FLAT WALL MOUNTED SIGNS
19 MAY BE LOCATED ON ANY WALL OF A BUILDING AND MAY EXTEND NOT MORE
20 THAN EIGHT (8) FEET ABOVE THE PARAPET WALL OR ROOF LINE OF THE
21 BUILDING TO WHICH IT IS ATTACHED. HOWEVER, NO WINDOW OR PART OF A
22 WINDOW SHALL BE COVERED BY THE SIGN AREA OR ITS SUPPORTING
23 STRUCTURE.

24 SECTION 25-72. SIGN PERMITS AND FEES.

25 (1) PERMIT REQUIREMENT. IT SHALL BE UNLAWFUL FOR ANY
26 PERSON TO ERECT, ALTER OR RELOCATE ANY SIGN OR OTHER ADVERTISING
27 STRUCTURE AS DEFINED IN THIS ARTICLE WITHOUT FIRST OBTAINING A
28 SIGN PERMIT AND MAKING PAYMENT OF THE REQUIRED FEE. ALL ILLUMI-
29 NATED OR ELECTRICAL OPERATED SIGNS SHALL, IN ADDITION, BE SUBJECT
30 TO THE PROVISIONS OF THE HARFORD COUNTY ELECTRICAL CODE AND ANY
31 PERMIT FEES REQUIRED THEREUNDER.

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1 (2) APPLICATION. APPLICATION FOR A SIGN PERMIT SHALL BE
2 SIGNED BY THE OWNER OR AUTHORIZED AGENT. THE SIGN PERMIT APPLI-
3 CATION SHALL ALSO CONTAIN OR REQUIRE THE NAME AND ADDRESS OF THE
4 SIGN OWNER OR THE SIGN ERECTOR, DRAWINGS SHOWING THE COPY DESIGN,
5 DIMENSIONS, HEIGHTS, AND LOCATION OF THE SIGN, AND SUCH OTHER
6 PERTINENT INFORMATION AS THE DEPARTMENT MAY REQUIRE TO INSURE
7 COMPLIANCE WITH THE LAWS OF HARFORD COUNTY, MARYLAND. WHENEVER AN
8 APPLICATION FOR A SIGN PERMIT IS FILED FOR THE ERECTION OF A SIGN
9 IN ANY AREA OF HARFORD COUNTY DESIGNATED AS A "HISTORIC LANDMARK
10 OR DISTRICT," THE APPLICATION SHALL BE SUBJECT TO THE APPROVALS OF
11 THE HISTORIC DISTRICT COMMISSION AND THE DEPARTMENT.

12 (3) FEES. FEES FOR SIGN PERMITS SHALL BE AS ESTABLISHED AND
13 SPECIFIED IN CHAPTER 13, ARTICLE II OF THE HARFORD COUNTY CODE, AS
14 AMENDED.

15 (4) NULLIFICATION. A SIGN PERMIT SHALL BECOME NULL AND VOID
16 IF THE WORK FOR WHICH THE PERMIT WAS ISSUED HAS NOT BEEN COMPLETED
17 WITHIN TWELVE (12) MONTHS AFTER THE DATE OF ISSUANCE OF THE
18 PERMIT.

19 (5) REVOCATION. THE DIRECTOR IS HEREBY AUTHORIZED AND
20 EMPOWERED TO REVOKE ANY PERMIT ISSUED UPON FAILURE OF THE PER-
21 MITTEE TO COMPLY WITH ANY PROVISION OF THIS ARTICLE.

22 SECTION 25-73. EXEMPTIONS.

23 THE FOLLOWING TYPES OF SIGNS ARE EXEMPT FROM ALL THE PRO-
24 VISIONS OF THIS ARTICLE, EXCEPT FOR CONSTRUCTION AND SAFETY
25 REGULATIONS AND THE FOLLOWING STANDARDS:

26 (1) PUBLIC SIGNS. PUBLIC SIGNS ERECTED BY OR ON THE
27 ORDER OF A PUBLIC OFFICIAL IN THE PERFORMANCE OF DUTY, SUCH AS,
28 BUT NOT LIMITED TO, DIRECTIONAL SIGNS, REGULATORY SIGNS, WARNING
29 SIGNS, INFORMATIONAL SIGNS, AND LEGAL NOTICES.

30 (2) SPECIAL EVENT SIGNS. TEMPORARY SIGNS ANNOUNCING
31 ANY PUBLIC, CHARITABLE, EDUCATIONAL OR RELIGIOUS EVENT OR FUNCTION,
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1 LOCATED ON THE PREMISES WHERE THE EVENT OR FUNCTION IS TO TAKE
2 PLACE. THEY SHALL BE SET BACK NOT LESS THAN TEN (10) FEET FROM THE
3 PROPERTY LINE AND SHALL HAVE A MAXIMUM SIGN AREA OF THIRTY-TWO
4 (32) SQUARE FEET AND SHALL NOT EXCEED A HEIGHT OF SIX (6) FEET.
5 SUCH SIGNS SHALL NOT BE ERECTED MORE THAN THIRTY (30) DAYS PRIOR
6 TO THE EVENT OR FUNCTION AND MUST BE REMOVED WITHIN SEVEN (7) DAYS
7 AFTER THE EVENT OR FUNCTION. SUCH SIGNS SHALL NOT BE ILLUMINATED.
8 IF BUILDING MOUNTED, THESE SIGNS SHALL BE FLAT WALL SIGNS AND
9 SHALL NOT PROJECT ABOVE THE ROOF LINE. ~~IF-GROUND-MOUNTED, THE TOP~~
10 ~~SHALL-NOT-BE-MORE-THAN-SIX-(6)-FEET-ABOVE-GROUND-LEVEL.~~

11 (3) INTEGRAL SIGNS. INTEGRAL SIGNS DESIGNATING NAMES
12 OR BUILDINGS, DATES OF ERECTION, MONUMENTAL CITATIONS, COMMEMORATIVE
13 TABLETS AND PLAQUES WHEN CARVED INTO STONE, CONCRETE OR SIMILAR
14 MATERIAL OR MADE OF BRONZE, ALUMINUM OR OTHER PERMANENT TYPE
15 CONSTRUCTION AND MADE AN INTEGRAL PART OF THE STRUCTURE, AS WELL
16 AS SIGNS FORMING AN INTEGRAL PART OF, OR ATTACHED TO, PUMPS
17 DISPERSING FUELS, VENDING MACHINES, AND SERVICE APPLIANCES.

18 (4) PRIVATE TRAFFIC CONTROL. SIGNS DIRECTING TRAFFIC
19 MOVEMENT ONTO A PREMISE OR WITHIN A PREMISE, NOT EXCEEDING FOUR
20 (4) SQUARE FEET IN AREA FOR EACH SIGN. ILLUMINATION OF THESE
21 SIGNS SHALL CONFORM TO SECTION 25-77 HEREOF.

22 (5) REAL ESTATE SIGNS. REAL ESTATE SIGNS NOT EXCEEDING
23 SIX (6) SQUARE FEET IN AREA AND LOCATED ON THE SUBJECT PROPERTY
24 TRACT. THEY SHALL BE REMOVED WITHIN FOURTEEN (14) DAYS AFTER
25 EXECUTION OF A LEASE OR CONTRACT FOR SALE OF THE PROPERTY.

26 (6) PROJECT DEVELOPMENT SIGNS. TEMPORARY SIGNS FOR
27 UNDEVELOPED PARCELS OFFERING THE SALE, RENTAL, OR LEASE OF THE
28 PROPERTY SHALL BE SET BACK AT LEAST TEN (10) FEET FROM THE FRONT
29 ~~PROPERTY-LINE~~ ROAD RIGHT-OF-WAY AND SHALL NOT EXCEED TEN (10) FEET
30 IN HEIGHT ABOVE THE ROAD GRADE. ONE SIGN SHALL BE PERMITTED FOR
31 EACH ROAD FRONTAGE OF AT LEAST FIFTY (50) FEET. THE MAXIMUM SIGN
32 AREA SHALL NOT EXCEED:

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(a) TWENTY-FOUR (24) SQUARE FEET FOR THE PROPERTY WITH LESS THAN TWO HUNDRED FIFTY (250) FEET OF ROAD FRONTAGE.

(b) FORTY-EIGHT (48) SQUARE FEET FOR PROPERTY WITH MORE THAN TWO HUNDRED FIFTY (250) FEET BUT LESS THAN FIVE HUNDRED (500) FEET OF ROAD FRONTAGE.

(c) SIXTY-FOUR (64) SQUARE FEET FOR PROPERTY WITH FIVE HUNDRED (500) FEET OR MORE OF ROAD FRONTAGE.

~~(7)--POLITICAL-CAMPAIGN-SIGNS--EXCEPT-FOR-BILLBOARDS, SIGNS-ANNOUNCING-CANDIDATES-SEEKING-PUBLIC-OFFICE-AND-OTHER-DATA PERTINENT-THERE-TO-SHALL-BE-PERMITTED-UP-TO-A-TOTAL-AREA-OF-NINE (9)-SQUARE-FEET-FOR-EACH-PREMISE-IN-A-RESIDENTIAL-DISTRICT-AND THIRTY-TWO-(32)-SQUARE-FEET-IN-A-BUSINESS-OR-INDUSTRIAL-DISTRICT. THESE-SIGNS-SHALL-BE-CONFINED-TO-PRIVATE-PROPERTY-AND-SHALL-NOT-BE LESS-THAN-FIFTEEN-(15)-FEET-FROM-THE-NEAREST-EDGE-OF-THE-ROAD SURFACE--NO-SIGN-SHALL-BE-PLACED-WITHIN-SIXTY-(60)-FEET-OF-ANY INTERSECTION-AND-IN-SUCH-A-MANNER-AS-TO-IMPEDE-VISION-BETWEEN-A HEIGHT-OF-TWO-AND-A-HALF-(2-1/2)-FEET-AND-TEN-(10)-FEET-ABOVE-THE GRADE-AT-THE-ROAD-RIGHT-OF-WAY--THESE-SIGNS-MAY-BE-DISPLAYED FORTY-FIVE-(45)-DAYS-PRIOR-TO-THE-PRIMARY-ELECTION-AND-SHALL-BE REMOVED-FIFTEEN~~

(7) POLITICAL CAMPAIGN AND PUBLIC ISSUE SIGNS. EXCEPT FOR BILLBOARDS, SIGNS ANNOUNCING CANDIDATES SEEKING PUBLIC OFFICE AND ADVOCATING THE SUPPORT OR DEFEAT OF PUBLIC ISSUES SHALL BE PERMITTED, PROVIDED THE TOTAL AREA OF THE SIGNS DOES NOT EXCEED SIXTEEN (16) SQUARE FEET FOR EACH PREMISE IN A RESIDENTIAL DISTRICT AND THIRTY-TWO (32) SQUARE FEET IN AN AGRICULTURAL, BUSINESS, OR INDUSTRIAL DISTRICT. THESE SIGNS SHALL BE CONFINED TO PRIVATE PROPERTY. NO SIGN SHALL BE PLACED WITHIN SIXTY (60) FEET OF THE CENTER OF A ROAD INTERSECTION OR IN SUCH A MANNER AS TO IMPEDE VISION. THESE SIGNS MAY BE DISPLAYED FORTY-FIVE (45) DAYS PRIOR TO THE PRIMARY ELECTION AND SHALL BE REMOVED FIFTEEN (15) DAYS AFTER THE GENERAL ELECTION OR WITHIN FIFTEEN (15) DAYS

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1 AFTER THE PRIMARY IF THE CANDIDATE IS NOT A CANDIDATE FOR THE
2 GENERAL ELECTION.

3 {8}--HOMEOWNER-IDENTIFICATION-SIGNS--THIS-SIGN-SHALL
4 NOT-EXCEED-ONE-{1}-SQUARE-FOOT-

5 {9}--AGRICULTURAL-IDENTIFICATION-SIGNS--THESE-SIGNS
6 SHALL-NOT-EXCEED-SIX-{6}-SQUARE-FEET-IN-AREA-AND-LOCATED-NOT-LESS
7 THAN-THIRTY-FIVE-{35}-FEET-FROM-CENTER-LINE-OF-ROAD-OR-TEN-{10}-
8 FEET-FROM-THE-PUBLIC-ROAD-RIGHT-OF-WAY,WHICHEVER-IS-GREATER-

9 (8) HOMEOWNER IDENTIFICATION SIGNS. THESE SIGNS
10 IDENTIFYING THE NAME, ADDRESS, AND OCCUPATION OF RESIDENTS SHALL
11 NOT EXCEED TWO (2) SQUARE FEET.

12 (9) AGRICULTURAL IDENTIFICATION SIGNS. THESE SIGNS
13 SHALL NOT EXCEED THIRTY-TWO (32) SQUARE FEET IN AREA AND SHALL NOT
14 BE LOCATED LESS THAN THIRTY-FIVE (35) FEET FROM CENTER LINE OF
15 ROAD OR TEN (10) FEET FROM THE ROAD RIGHT-OF-WAY, WHICHEVER IS
16 GREATER.

17 (10) DIRECTIONAL SIGNS. DIRECTIONAL SIGNS FOR ANY PUBLIC,
18 CHARITABLE, EDUCATIONAL, OR RELIGIOUS FUNCTION SHALL BE SET BACK
19 TEN (10) FEET FROM ROAD RIGHT-OF-WAY. THESE SIGNS SHALL NOT
20 EXCEED TWO (2) SQUARE FEET IN SIGN AREA AND SHALL NOT EXCEED FOUR
21 (4) FEET IN HEIGHT ABOVE THE ROAD GRADE.

22 SECTION 25-74. CALCULATION OF ADVERTISING OR SIGN AREA.

23 (1) DOUBLE-FACED SIGNS. ONE (1) FACE OF A SIGN HAVING
24 OBVERSE AND REVERSE FACES SHALL BE CONSIDERED IN CALCULATING THE
25 ADVERTISING AREA. IN THE EVENT THAT THE FACES OF A SIGN ARE OF A
26 DIFFERENT AREA, THE FACE HAVING THE LARGER AREA SHALL DETERMINE
27 THE ADVERTISING AREA OF THE SIGN.

28 (2) MULTI-FACED OR CURVED SURFACE SIGNS. THE ADVERTISING
29 AREA OF A MULTI-FACED OR CURVED SURFACE SIGN SHALL BE CALCULATED
30 FROM DIMENSIONS DERIVED FROM ITS GREATEST PLANE PROJECTION.

31 (3) IRREGULARLY SHAPED SIGNS. THE ADVERTISING AREA OF
32 IRREGULARLY SHAPED SIGNS SHALL BE CALCULATED BY TOTALING THE AREA

1 OF ONE OR MORE RECTANGLES COMPLETELY ENCLOSING THE EXTREMITIES OF
2 THE SIGN.

3 (4) MODULAR SIGNS. THE ADVERTISING AREA OF SIGNS CONSISTING
4 OF TWO (2) OR MORE INDIVIDUAL LETTERS, CHARACTERS, NUMBERS, OR
5 FIGURES SHALL BE DETERMINED BY THE AREA OF A DESCRIBED RECTANGLE
6 COMPLETELY ENCLOSING THE EXTREMITIES OF ALL OF THE INDIVIDUAL
7 LETTERS, CHARACTERS, NUMBERS, OR FIGURES; PROVIDED, HOWEVER, THAT
8 IF INDIVIDUAL MODULES ARE MOUNTED ON A BACKGROUND OTHER THAN AN
9 INTEGRAL STRUCTURE COMPONENT OF A BUILDING, THE ENTIRE AREA OF
10 SUCH A BACKGROUND SHALL BE CALCULATED AS ADVERTISING AREA.

11 (5) CYLINDRICAL SIGNS. THE ADVERTISING AREA OF CYLINDRICAL
12 SIGNS SHALL BE COMPUTED BY MULTIPLYING ONE-HALF (1/2) OF THE
13 CIRCUMFERENCE BY THE HEIGHT OF THE SIGN.

14 SECTION 25-75. STRUCTURAL REQUIREMENTS FOR SIGNS.

15 ALL SIGNS AND SUPPORTING STRUCTURES NOT EXEMPTED PURSUANT TO
16 SECTION 25-73 SHALL COMPLY WITH THE PERTINENT REQUIREMENTS OF THE
17 BOCA CODE, AS ADOPTED BY HARFORD COUNTY, MARYLAND.

18 SECTION 25-76. INSPECTION, MAINTENANCE AND REMOVAL.

19 (1) INSPECTION. SIGNS FOR WHICH A PERMIT IS REQUIRED MAY
20 BE INSPECTED PERIODICALLY BY THE ENFORCEMENT OFFICER FOR COM-
21 PLIANCE WITH THIS ARTICLE.

22 (2) TAGS. ALL SIGNS REQUIRING PERMITS SHALL DISPLAY A TAG
23 PERMANENTLY AFFIXED TO THE SIGN IN A PLACE CONSPICUOUS TO THE
24 ENFORCEMENT OFFICER. THESE TAGS WILL BE ISSUED BY THE ENFORCEMENT
25 OFFICER.

26 (3) MAINTENANCE. ALL SIGNS AND SUPPORTING STRUCTURES SHALL
27 BE KEPT IN GOOD REPAIR AND IN SAFE AND ATTRACTIVE CONDITION.

28 (4) REMOVAL OF UNSAFE AND UNLAWFUL SIGNS. IF THE ENFORCE-
29 MENT OFFICER SHALL FIND THAT ANY SIGN OR OTHER ADVERTISING
30 STRUCTURE REGULATED HEREIN IS UNSAFE OR HAS BEEN CONSTRUCTED OR
31 ERECTED OR IS BEING MAINTAINED IN VIOLATION OF THE PROVISIONS OF
32 THIS ARTICLE, THE ENFORCEMENT OFFICER SHALL GIVE WRITTEN NOTICE TO

1 THE PERMITTEE THEREOF. IF THE PERMITTEE FAILS TO REMOVE OR ALTER
2 THE STRUCTURE SO AS TO COMPLY WITH THE PROVISIONS OF THIS ARTICLE
3 WITHIN TWENTY-(20)-DAYS-AFTER-SUCH THE TIME STATED IN THE NOTICE,
4 THE ENFORCEMENT OFFICER SHALL TAKE NECESSARY LEGAL ACTION TO SEEK
5 COMPLIANCE WITH THE PROVISIONS OF THIS ARTICLE.

6 SECTION 25-77. ILLUMINATION.

7 (1) THE LIGHT FROM ANY ILLUMINATED SIGN OR FROM ANY LIGHT
8 SOURCE, INCLUDING INTERIOR OF A BUILDING, SHALL BE SO SHADED,
9 SHIELDED, OR DIRECTED THAT THE LIGHT INTENSITY OR BRIGHTNESS SHALL
10 NOT ADVERSELY AFFECT SURROUNDING OR FACING PREMISES NOR ADVERSELY
11 AFFECT THE VISION OF MOTOR VEHICLE OPERATORS.

12 (2) NO SIGN SHALL HAVE BLINKING OR FLASHING LIGHTS OR OTHER
13 ILLUMINATION DEVICES WHICH HAVE A CHANGING LIGHT INTENSITY,
14 BRIGHTNESS OR COLOR, OR WHICH ARE SO CONSTRUCTED AND OPERATED SO
15 AS TO CREATE AN APPEARANCE OR ILLUSION OF WRITING, EXCEPT SIGNS
16 DESIGNED TO SHOW THE TIME, TEMPERATURE, AND OTHER PUBLIC SERVICE
17 MESSAGES. NOTHING CONTAINED IN THIS ARTICLE SHALL, HOWEVER, BE
18 CONSTRUED AS PREVENTING THE USE OF LIGHTS OR DECORATIONS COM-
19 MEMORATING RELIGIOUS AND PATRIOTIC HOLIDAYS. BEACON LIGHTS OR
20 SEARCH LIGHTS SHALL BE TEMPORARILY PERMITTED FOR ADVERTISING
21 SPECIAL EVENTS.

22 (3) NO EXPOSED REFLECTIVE TYPE BULBS AND NO STROBE LIGHTS OR
23 INCANDESCENT LAMPS EXCEEDING FIFTEEN (15) WATTS SHALL BE USED ON
24 THE EXTERIOR SURFACE OF ANY SIGN SO AS TO EXPOSE THE FACE OF THE
25 BULB, LIGHT, OR LAMP TO ANY PUBLIC STREET OR ADJACENT PROPERTY
26 EXCEPT SIGNS DESIGNED TO SHOW THE TIME, TEMPERATURE, AND OTHER
27 PUBLIC SERVICE MESSAGES.

28 SECTION 25-78. SIGNS PERMITTED IN ALL ZONING DISTRICTS.

29 THE FOLLOWING SIGNS SHALL BE PERMITTED ANYWHERE WITHIN THE
30 COUNTY:

1 (1) CONSTRUCTION SIGNS. ONE SIGN SHALL BE PERMITTED
2 FOR ALL CONSTRUCTION CONTRACTORS, ONE FOR ALL PROFESSIONALS,
3 FIRMS, AND ONE FOR ALL LENDING INSTITUTIONS ON SITES UNDER CON-
4 STRUCTION. EACH SIGN SHALL NOT EXCEED THIRTY-TWO (32) SQUARE FEET
5 OVERALL, AND NO MORE THAN THREE (3) SUCH SIGNS SHALL BE PERMITTED
6 ON ONE SITE. THE SIGN SHALL BE CONFINED TO THE CONSTRUCTION SITE,
7 CONSTRUCTION SHED, OR TRAILER AND SHALL BE REMOVED WITHIN FIFTEEN
8 (15) DAYS AFTER THE BEGINNING OF THE INTENDED USE OF THE PROJECT.

9 (2) PERMANENT RESIDENTIAL DEVELOPMENT PROJECT IDENTI-
10 FICATION SIGNS. ONE (1) RESIDENTIAL DEVELOPMENT PROJECT IDENTI-
11 FICATION SIGN NOT EXCEEDING SIXTY-FOUR (64) SQUARE FEET IN AREA
12 SHALL BE PERMITTED ON THE PROPERTY PROVIDED IT IS LOCATED IN
13 CONFORMANCE WITH APPLICABLE MINIMUM BUILDING SETBACK LINES FOR THE
14 DISTRICT AND NOT EXCEEDING A HEIGHT OF SIX (6) FEET. IF THE LOT
15 OR PARCEL HAS MULTIPLE FRONTAGE OF AT LEAST FIFTY (50) FEET, ONE
16 ADDITIONAL SIGN NOT EXCEEDING THIRTY-TWO (32) SQUARE FEET AND NOT
17 EXCEEDING A HEIGHT OF SIX (6) FEET IN AREA SHALL BE ALLOWED ON THE
18 PROPERTY TO BE PLACED FACING THE ADDITIONAL FRONTAGE IN CONFOR-
19 MANCE WITH MINIMUM BUILDING SETBACK LINES. UNDER NO CIRCUMSTANCES
20 SHALL MORE THAN TWO (2) SIGNS BE PERMITTED FOR THE DEVELOPMENT.

21 (3) STREET BANNERS. A TEMPORARY STREET BANNER ADVER-
22 TISING A PUBLIC EVENT SHALL BE PERMITTED IF A PERMIT IS ISSUED AND
23 APPROVAL HAS BEEN GRANTED BY THE BALTIMORE-GAS-AND-ELECTRIC
24 COMPANY-AND APPROPRIATE PUBLIC UTILITY AND/OR THE APPROPRIATE
25 STATE OR COUNTY HIGHWAY AUTHORITY.

26 (4) PERMANENT INSTITUTIONAL SIGNS. SIGNS OF A PERMA-
27 NENT NATURE SETTING FORTH THE NAME OF A PLACE OF WORSHIP, SERVICE
28 CLUB, CIVIC ORGANIZATION, PUBLIC OR SERVICE CENTER, PUBLIC INSTI-
29 TUTIONS, SCHOOLS, OR OTHER SIMILAR USES SHALL BE PERMITTED IF
30 SETBACK IS ONE-THIRD (1/3) OF THE REQUIRED BUILDING SETBACK OF
31 THE DISTRICT. ILLUMINATION SHALL BE IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE
32 RESTRICTIONS SET FORTH IN SECTION 25-77. SUCH SIGNS SHALL NOT

1 EXCEED THIRTY-TWO (32) SQUARE FEET FOR THE OVERALL STRUCTURE AND
2 SHALL NOT EXCEED SIX (6) FEET IN OVERALL HEIGHT.

3 (5) AGRICULTURAL ROAD SIGN-STANDS STAND SIGNS. SIGNS
4 FOR ACCESSORY AGRICULTURAL ROADSIDE STANDS SHALL NOT EXCEED
5 THIRTY-TWO (32) SQUARE FEET AND NOT EXCEED A HEIGHT OF SIX (6)
6 FEET. SUCH SIGNS SHALL NOT BE LOCATED LESS THAN THIRTY-FIVE (35)
7 FEET FROM CENTER LINE OF ROAD OR TEN (10) FEET FROM THE PUBLIC
8 ROAD RIGHT-OF-WAY, WHICHEVER IS GREATER.

9 SECTION 25-79. SIGNS PERMITTED BY ZONING DISTRICTS.

10 (a) RESIDENTIAL DISTRICTS AND RESIDENTIAL LOTS:

11 (1) PROFESSIONAL OR HOME OCCUPATION SIGNS.

12 a. ONE (1) LIGHTED SIGN, NOT EXCEEDING TWO (2)
13 SQUARE FEET IN AREA AND ATTACHED FLAT AGAINST THE BUILDING, SHALL
14 BE PERMITTED IN CONJUNCTION WITH APPROVED PROFESSIONAL OR HOME
15 OCCUPATIONS AS SET FORTH IN THE ZONING CODE.

16 b. FREESTANDING SIGNS MAY BE PERMITTED AS A
17 SPECIAL EXCEPTION, SUBJECT TO THE APPROVAL OF THE BOARD. WHEN
18 ~~LOCATED NOT LESS THAN TEN (10) FEET FROM THE FRONT PROPERTY LINE~~
19 ~~AND DO NOT EXCEED SIX (6) FEET IN HEIGHT, WITH A SIGN AREA NOT TO~~
20 ~~EXCEED FOUR (4) SQUARE FEET.~~ , PROVIDED THEY ARE LOCATED NOT LESS
21 THAN TEN (10) FEET FROM THE ROAD RIGHT-OF-WAY, DO NOT EXCEED SIX
22 (6) FEET IN HEIGHT, AND DO NOT HAVE A SIGN AREA EXCEEDING FOUR (4)
23 SQUARE FEET.

24 (b) BUSINESS DISTRICTS AND INDUSTRIAL DISTRICTS.

25 ~~{1}--WALL SIGNS--ALL FLAT WALL MOUNTED SIGNS SHALL NOT~~
26 ~~EXCEED A TOTAL AREA OF TWO (2) SQUARE FEET PER EACH LINEAL FOOT OF~~
27 ~~BUILDING WIDTH MEASURED ALONG THE FRONT WALL OR ENTRANCE WALL OF A~~
28 ~~BUILDING.--IF A BUILDING IS LOCATED ON A LOT HAVING FRONTAGE ON~~
29 ~~TWO STREETS, THEN THE SIGN AREA FOR EACH SIDE SHALL BE CALCULATED~~
30 ~~SEPARATELY.~~

31 ~~{2}--PROJECTING SIGNS--~~

{3}--FREESTANDING-SIGNS-IDENTIFYING-INTEGRATED-COMMUNITY
SHOPPING-CENTERS--FREESTANDING-SIGNS-IDENTIFYING-SHOPPING-CENTERS
SHALL-BE-ALLOWED--BUT-THE-MAXIMUM-SIGN-AREA-SHALL-BE-DETERMINED
INDEPENDENTLY-FROM-THE-SIGN-AREA-RESTRICTIONS-CONTAINED-IN-SECTION
25-71(2)--FREESTANDING-SIGNS-SHALL-NOT-EXCEED-ONE-(1)-SQUARE-FOOT
IN-AREA-FOR-EACH-ONE-(1)-FOOT-OF-PROPERTY-FRONTAGE-OR-FOUR-HUNDRED
(400)-SQUARE-FEET--WHICHEVER-IS-SMALLER--ONE-SUCH-SIGN-SHALL-BE
PERMITTED-FOR-EACH-ROAD-FRONTAGE-OR-NOT-MORE-THAN-TWO-(2)-SIGNS-OF
EQUAL-SIZE-SHALL-BE-PERMITTED-ALONG-ANY-FRONTAGE-WHICH-EXCEEDS
FIVE-HUNDRED-(500)-FEET--THE-SIGN-HEIGHT-SHALL-NOT-EXCEED-TWENTY-
FIVE-(25)-FEET-AND-SHALL-BE-SET-BACK-NOT-LESS-THAN-TWENTY-(20)-
FEET-FROM-THE-FRONT-PROPERTY-LINE--

{4}--MARQUEES--

{5}--ROOF-SIGNS--

{6}--CANOPY-SIGNS--

{7}--TEMPORARY-SIGNS--

(1) SIGNS ERECTED ON AND ATTACHED TO COMMERCIAL OR INDUSTRIAL
BUILDINGS. THE TOTAL AREA OF ALL SIGNS ERECTED ON AND ATTACHED TO
COMMERCIAL OR INDUSTRIAL BUILDINGS SHALL NOT EXCEED FOUR (4)
SQUARE FEET PER EACH LINEAL FOOT OF BUILDING WIDTH MEASURED ALONG
THE FRONT WALL OR ENTRANCE WALL OF A BUILDING. IF A BUILDING IS
LOCATED ON A LOT HAVING FRONTAGE ON TWO STREETS, THEN THE SIGN
AREA FOR EACH SIDE SHALL BE CALCULATED SEPARATELY.

(a) WALL SIGNS.

(b) PROJECTING SIGNS.

(c) MARQUEES.

(d) ROOF SIGNS.

(e) CANOPY SIGNS.

(f) TEMPORARY SIGNS ERECTED ON AND ATTACHED TO COM-
MERCIAL OR INDUSTRIAL BUILDINGS.

(g) FREESTANDING SIGNS.

(1) FREESTANDING SIGNS IDENTIFYING INTEGRATED COMMUNITY SHOPPING CENTERS. FREESTANDING SIGNS IDENTIFYING INTEGRATED COMMUNITY SHOPPING CENTERS SHALL BE ALLOWED, BUT THE MAXIMUM SIGN AREA SHALL BE DETERMINED INDEPENDENTLY FROM THE SIGN AREA RESTRICTIONS CONTAINED IN SECTION 25-71(2). FREESTANDING SIGNS SHALL NOT EXCEED ONE (1) SQUARE FOOT IN AREA FOR EACH FOOT OF ROAD FRONTAGE OR FOUR HUNDRED (400) SQUARE FEET, WHICHEVER IS SMALLER. ONE SUCH SIGN SHALL BE PERMITTED FOR EACH ROAD FRONTAGE OR NOT MORE THAN TWO (2) SIGNS SHALL BE PERMITTED ALONG ANY FRONTAGE WHICH EXCEEDS FIVE HUNDRED (500) FEET. THE SIGN HEIGHT SHALL NOT EXCEED FORTY (40) FEET AND SHALL BE SET BACK NOT LESS THAN TWENTY (20) FEET FROM FRONT PROPERTY LINE.

(2) FREESTANDING SIGN IDENTIFYING COMMERCIAL OR INDUSTRIAL ACTIVITY OTHER THAN INTEGRATED COMMUNITY SHOPPING CENTERS. A FREESTANDING SIGN IDENTIFYING COMMERCIAL OR INDUSTRIAL ACTIVITY OTHER THAN COMMUNITY SHOPPING CENTERS SHALL BE ALLOWED ON EACH ROAD FRONTAGE AND THE MAXIMUM SIGN AREA SHALL BE DETERMINED IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE RESTRICTIONS CONTAINED IN SECTION 25-71(2).

(2) DIRECTIONAL SIGNS. ONE (1) DIRECTIONAL SIGN NOT EXCEEDING FOUR (4) SQUARE FEET IN SIGN AREA AND SIX (6) FEET IN HEIGHT ABOVE THE ROAD GRADE SHALL BE PERMITTED PER BUSINESS USE IF LOCATED AT THE NEAREST INTERSECTION OF ANY MAJOR COLLECTOR OR ARTERIAL ROAD AND SET BACK THE REQUIRED DISTANCE FOR THE DISTRICT. HOWEVER, THE MAXIMUM NUMBER OF DIRECTIONAL SIGNS SHALL NOT EXCEED THREE (3) PER INTERSECTIONAL QUADRANT.

(c) AGRICULTURAL DISTRICTS:

(1) PROFESSIONAL OR HOME OCCUPATION SIGNS.

a. ONE (1) LIGHTED SIGN NOT EXCEEDING TWO (2) SQUARE FEET IN AREA ON LOTS NOT EXCLUSIVELY USED FOR RESIDENTIAL PURPOSES SHALL BE PERMITTED. THESE SIGNS MAY BE ATTACHED FLAT

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AGAINST THE BUILDING OR, IF FREESTANDING, LOCATED NOT LESS THAN
TEN (10) FEET FROM THE ROAD RIGHT-OF-WAY.

(2) DIRECTIONAL SIGNS. ONE (1) DIRECTIONAL SIGN NOT
EXCEEDING FOUR (4) SQUARE FEET IN SIGN AREA AND SIX (6) FEET IN
HEIGHT ABOVE THE ROAD GRADE SHALL BE PERMITTED PER BUSINESS USE IF
SET BACK TEN (10) FEET FROM THE ROAD RIGHT-OF-WAY AND LOCATED AT
THE NEAREST INTERSECTING ARTERIAL ROAD.

SECTION 25-80. SIGNS PROHIBITED.

(a) THE FOLLOWING SIGNS ARE PROHIBITED IN ALL DISTRICTS AND
SHALL BE REMOVED IMMEDIATELY IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 25-76:

(1) SIGNS CONTAINING STATEMENTS, WORDS, OR PICTURES OF
AN OBSCENE, INDECENT, OR IMMORAL CHARACTER THAT OFFEND PUBLIC
MORALS OR DECENCY OF THE COMMUNITY.

(2) SIGNS WHICH-ARE OF A SIZE, LOCATION, MOVEMENT,
CONTENT, COLORATION, OR MANNER OF ILLUMINATION WHICH MAY BE
CONFUSED WITH OR CONSTRUED AS A TRAFFIC CONTROL DEVICE OR WHICH
HIDE FROM VIEW ANY-TRAFFIC-OR-STREET-SIGN-OR-SIGNAL ANY PERMITTED
SIGNS OR WHICH DISTRACT OR OBSTRUCT THE VIEW OF ROAD OR PEDESTRIAN
TRAFFIC IN ANY DIRECTION AT A STREET-OR ROAD INTERSECTION.

~~(3)---SIGNS-WHICH-ARE-PLACED-WITHIN-A-MUNICIPAL-COUNTY,
OR-STATE-RIGHT-OF-WAY,-EXCEPT-AS-PROVIDED-IN-SECTION-25-73(4)-~~

(b) EXCEPT AS PROVIDED IN SECTION 25-73(1), SIGNS WHICH ARE
PLACED WITHIN THE COUNTY OR STATE RIGHT-OF-WAY ARE PROHIBITED AND
SHALL BE REMOVED IMMEDIATELY BY THE ENFORCEMENT OFFICER OR THE
APPROPRIATE HIGHWAY AUTHORITY.

(c) FREESTANDING SIGNS ADVERTISING BUSINESS USES SHALL NOT
BE PERMITTED IN PLANNED RESIDENTIAL DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS.

SECTION 25-81. BILLBOARDS.

(1) GENERAL. BILLBOARDS SHALL BE PERMITTED IN THE
BUSINESS-3 (B3), COMMERCIAL/INDUSTRIAL (CI), AND GENERAL/INDUSTRIAL
(GI) DISTRICTS ONLY.

(2) LOCATION. BILLBOARDS SHALL NOT BE PERMITTED TO BE ERECTED WITHIN THREE HUNDRED (300) FEET OF ANY PUBLIC SQUARE, OR THE ENTRANCE TO ANY PUBLIC PARK, PUBLIC, PRIVATE OR PAROCHIAL SCHOOL, LIBRARY, CHURCH, OR SIMILAR INSTITUTION. ALL SUCH SIGNS SHALL BE SET BACK FROM THE FRONT PROPERTY LINE THE DISTANCE REQUIRED FOR A PRINCIPAL BUILDING IN THE ZONING DISTRICT IN WHICH LOCATED. NO BILLBOARD SHALL BE PERMITTED TO BE ERECTED WITHIN ONE HUNDRED (100) FEET OF A ROAD INTERSECTION UNLESS THE BASE OF THE SIGN IS NOT LESS THAN TEN (10) FEET ABOVE GROUND LEVEL OR ROAD SURFACE, WHICHEVER IS HIGHER. NO BILLBOARD SHALL BE ERECTED WITHIN SIX HUNDRED SIXTY (660) FEET OF ANY HIGHWAY WHICH IS PART OF THE INTERSTATE HIGHWAY SYSTEM.

(3) HEIGHT. A BILLBOARD SHALL BE NO MORE THAN FORTY-FIVE ~~(45)~~ FORTY (40) FEET IN HEIGHT FROM ROAD GRADE. A VARIANCE IN MAXIMUM HEIGHT MAY BE GRANTED BY THE BOARD DUE TO THE UNIQUENESS OF THE PROPERTY.

(4) AREA. BILLBOARDS DISPLAYING POSTER PANELS MAY BE SINGLE- OR DOUBLE-FACED. NO STRUCTURE SHALL CONTAIN MORE THAN TWO (2) FACES SHOWING IN THE SAME DIRECTION. THE TWO BILLBOARDS SHALL NOT EXCEED A COMBINED TOTAL OF SIX HUNDRED (600) SQUARE FEET. PAINTED BULLETINS SHALL BE LIMITED TO AN INDIVIDUAL FACE, EITHER SINGLE- OR DOUBLE-FACED, AND SHALL NOT EXCEED A TOTAL OF NINE HUNDRED (900) SQUARE FEET PER FACE.

(6) ILLUMINATION. ILLUMINATION SHALL BE IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE PROVISIONS OF SECTION 25-77.

SECTION 25-82. NONCONFORMING SIGNS.

~~(1) -- ALL SIGNS OR OTHER ADVERTISING STRUCTURES LAWFULLY IN EXISTENCE UPON THE EFFECTIVE DATE OF THIS ARTICLE SHALL CONSTITUTE NONCONFORMING SIGNS BUT ARE PERMITTED TO EXIST, EXCEPT THAT THESE NONCONFORMING SIGNS MAY NOT BE ALTERED OR RELOCATED UNLESS THERE IS COMPLIANCE WITH THE PROVISIONS OF THIS ARTICLE.~~

1 (2) --ALL-OTHER-SIGNS-OR-OTHER-ADVERTISING-STRUCTURES-IN
2 EXISTENCE-UPON-THE-EFFECTIVE-DATE-OF-THIS-ARTICLE-WHICH-VIOLATE-OR
3 DO-NOT-COMPLY-WITH-THE-PROVISIONS-HEREOF-SHALL-BE-REMOVED,-ALTERED-
4 OR-REPLACED-SO-AS-TO-COMPLY-WITH-THIS-ARTICLE-WITHIN-SIX-(6)-
5 MONTHS-

6 (1) ALL SIGNS OR OTHER ADVERTISING STRUCTURES LAWFULLY IN
7 EXISTENCE UPON THE EFFECTIVE DATE OF THIS ARTICLE WHICH DO NOT
8 CONFORM TO THE REQUIREMENTS OF THIS ARTICLE SHALL CONSTITUTE
9 NONCONFORMING SIGNS. NONCONFORMING SIGNS ARE PERMITTED TO EXIST,
10 EXCEPT THAT THEY MAY NOT BE STRUCTURALLY ALTERED OR RELOCATED
11 UNLESS THERE IS COMPLIANCE WITH THE PROVISIONS OF THIS ARTICLE.

12 (2) ALL OTHER SIGNS OR OTHER ADVERTISING STRUCTURES WHICH
13 WERE ERECTED IN VIOLATION OF THE LAW OR WHICH ARE ERECTED IN
14 VIOLATION OF THE PROVISIONS HEREOF SHALL BE REMOVED, ALTERED, OR
15 REPLACED SO AS TO COMPLY WITH THIS ARTICLE WITHIN SIX (6) MONTHS
16 OF THE EFFECTIVE DATE OF THIS ARTICLE.

17 SECTION 25-83. VARIANCE.

18 (1) THE BOARD MAY GRANT A VARIANCE FROM THE PROVISIONS OF
19 THIS ARTICLE IF, BY REASON OF THE CONFIGURATION OR IRREGULAR SHAPE
20 OF THE LOT OR, BY REASON OF TOPOGRAPHIC CONDITIONS OR OTHER
21 EXCEPTIONAL CIRCUMSTANCES UNIQUE TO THE LOT OR BUILDING, PRACTICAL
22 DIFFICULTY OR UNNECESSARY HARDSHIP RESULTS. THE BOARD SHALL,
23 BEFORE GRANTING THE VARIANCE, MAKE A WRITTEN FINDING AS PART OF
24 THE RECORD THAT THE CONDITIONS OR CIRCUMSTANCES DESCRIBED ARE
25 UNIQUE TO THE LOT OR BUILDING, THAT THE CONDITIONS OR CIRCUM-
26 STANCES CAUSE THE DIFFICULTY OR HARDSHIP, AND THAT THE VARIANCE
27 CAN BE GRANTED WITHOUT IMPAIRMENT OF THE PURPOSE AND PROVISIONS OF
28 THIS ARTICLE.

29 SECTION 25-84. ADMINISTRATION AND PENALTIES.

30 (1) ENFORCEMENT. THE ENFORCEMENT OFFICER OR DESIGNEE IS
31 HEREBY AUTHORIZED AND DIRECTED TO INTERPRET, ADMINISTER, AND
32

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AS AMENDED

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1 ENFORCE ALL OF THE PROVISIONS OF THIS ARTICLE AND ANY DECISION
2 RENDERED SHALL BE FINAL UNLESS APPEALED AS PROVIDED HEREIN.

3 (2) APPEAL. UPON DENIAL OF AN APPLICATION FOR A SIGN
4 PERMIT, THE APPLICANT MAY FILE AN APPEAL IN WRITING ON AN APPROVED
5 FORM WITHIN TWENTY (20) DAYS OF THE DATE OF ACTION OF THE DEPART-
6 MENT TO THE BOARD. A SIGN OWNER OR OWNER OF PROPERTY UPON WHICH
7 A SIGN IS LOCATED MAY APPEAL THE DECISION OF THE ENFORCEMENT
8 OFFICER REQUIRING SIGN REMOVAL, RELOCATION, OR ALTERATION TO THE
9 BOARD, PROVIDED THE APPEAL IS FILED WITHIN TWENTY (20) DAYS OF
10 NOTICE OF NONCOMPLIANCE WITH THIS ARTICLE AND ON A FORM PREPARED
11 BY THE DEPARTMENT.

12 (3) VIOLATION AND PENALTIES.

13 (a) WHENEVER THE PROVISIONS OF THIS ARTICLE HAVE BEEN
14 VIOLATED, THE ENFORCEMENT OFFICER SHALL GIVE NOTICE BY FIRST CLASS
15 MAIL TO THE OWNER AND OCCUPANT OF THE PROPERTY ALLEGED TO BE IN
16 VIOLATION STATING THE NATURE OF THE VIOLATION AND ORDERING THAT
17 ANY UNLAWFUL ACTIVITY BE ABATED.

18 (b) ANY OWNER, ~~TENANT~~ OR OCCUPANT WHO USES OR PERMITS
19 THE USE OF LAND, BUILDINGS OR STRUCTURES CONTRARY TO THE PRO-
20 VISIONS OF THIS ARTICLE SHALL BE GUILTY OF A MISDEMEANOR AND SHALL
21 BE FINED NOT MORE THAN FIVE HUNDRED DOLLAR (\$500.00) FOR EACH
22 OFFENSE. EACH DAY OF A CONTINUING VIOLATION SHALL BE CONSIDERED A
23 SEPARATE VIOLATION.

24 (c) THE COUNTY MAY RECOVER DAMAGES IN A CIVIL ACTION
25 FOR VIOLATION OF THIS ARTICLE AND MAY ADOPT PROCEDURES FOR THE
26 IMPOSITION OF CIVIL PENALTIES AS AUTHORIZED BY STATE LAW.

27 Section 2. *And Be It Further Enacted*, that this Act is hereby
28 declared to be an Emergency Act, necessary for the regulation of
29 signs and to protect the property, health, and welfare of the
30 citizens of Harford County, Maryland, and shall take effect on the
31 date it becomes law.

32 EFFECTIVE: October 22, 1982

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AS AMENDED

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AS AMENDED

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BY THE COUNCIL

Read the third time.

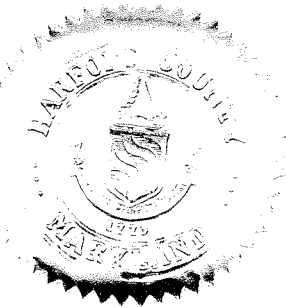
Passed LSD 82-33 (October 19, 1982) with amendments

Failed of Passage _____

By order

Angela Markowski, Secretary

Sealed with the County Seal and presented to the County Executive
for his approval this 20th day of October, 1982
at 3:00 o'clock P.M.



Angela Markowski, Secretary

BY THE EXECUTIVE

APPROVED:

[Signature]
County Executive

Date 10/22/82

BY THE COUNCIL

This Bill (No. 82-68 (as amended)), having been approved by
the Executive and returned to the Council, becomes law on
October 22, 1982.

Angela Markowski, Secretary

Rec'd & Recorded 2-19 19 82 Bat Rec'd M.
H.C. Libr 8 Folio 61 & examined per
H. Douglas Chilcoat, Clerk, Hartford Co.

EFFECTIVE DATE: October 22, 1982

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AS AMENDED